

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OPIC-03 SAM-01 AID-05 DHA-02 ORM-01

MC-02 ACDA-05 OMB-01 IO-10 /095 W  
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P R 251601Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4389

INFO AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5658

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, PO

SUBJECT: GOP ANGOLAN POLICY

REF: (A) LISBON 5586; (B) LISBON 5542 (NOTAL)

1. HAD DISCUSSION TODAY ON AIRLIFT WITH MAJOR ANTONIO CALDAS WHO WILL BECOME COSTA GOMES'S CHIEF OF CABINET REPLACING SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS DESIGNEE FERREIRA DA CUNHA. AFTER CALDAS HAD RENEWED HIS APPEAL FOR ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT (REFTEL A) I RAISED GOP ANGOLAN POLICY WITH HIM. AID REPRESENTATIVE PATTERSON WAS PRESENT DURING CONVERSATION.

2. TOLD CALDAS THAT I HAD EXPRESSED USG CONCERN OVER GOP ANGOLAN POLICY TO COSTA GOMES DURING MY LAST VISIT WITH HIM (REFTEL B). USG FELT GOP WAS FAVORING MPLA.

3. CALDAS RESPONDED THAT OFFICIAL GOP POLICY HAD BEEN ONE OF NEUTRALITY. NEVERTHELESS SOME INDIVIDUALS IN POSITIONS OF GREAT INFLUENCE HAD SUPPORTED MPLA. EVENTS IN ANGOLA WERE VERY CLOSELY LINKED TO EVENTS IN PORTUGAL, AND THIS PARTISANSHIP HAD BEEN AN IMPORTANT CATALYST IN BRINGING ABOUT RECENT GOVERN-  
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MENTAL CHANGES. THE NEW GOP WOULD ATTEMPT TO REINSTATE THE

ALVOR AGREEMENTS WHICH ARE THE ONLY BASIS FOR ACHIEVING A MINIMUM OF PEACE AND POLITICAL EQUILIBRIUM PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 11. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, CALDAS EMPHASIZED THAT GOP HAD VERY LITTLE INFLUENCE LEFT. HE NOTED THAT ONLY A FEW SOLDIERS REMAINED AND THESE WERE UNWILLING TO TAKE FIRM ACTION KNOWING THAT THEY WERE DEPARTING IN A MONTH.

4. I ASKED CALDAS ABOUT A REPORTED PLAN TO BRING ABOUT A COALITION BETWEEN UNITA AND MPLA WHICH WOULD THEN BE RECOGNIZED AS A MAJORITY GOVERNMENT FOR PURPOSES OF INDEPENDENCE. CALDAS SAID NO FORMAL PLAN EXISTED, BUT HE DID ACKNOWLEDGE SOME IDEAS HAD DEVELOPED ALONG THESE LINES "PRINCIPALLY AS A MEANS OF GUARDING AGAINST AN EXTERNAL THREAT BY MOBUTU." ANY SUCH IDEAS HAD NOW BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS, AND GOP WOULD MAKE ANOTHER EFFORT TO REACH SOME KIND OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE THREE FACTIONS PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE. CALDAS INDICATED THAT MELO ANTUNES WAS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THIS PROBLEM AND MIGHT NOT ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT TO POLAND AND USSR, "DESPITE DESIRE OF THESE GOVERNMENTS TO HAVE MELO ANTUNES ALONG."

5. I SAID WE WERE ALSO WORRIED ABOUT WHAT EQUIPMENT MIGHT BE LEFT BEHIND WHEN FINAL PORTUGUESE TROOPS WITHDREW. CALDAS, AN AIR FORCE OFFICER, SAID THAT VERY LITTLE HEAVY EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN BROUGHT INTO ANGOLA. MOST OF THAT BELONGED TO THE AIR FORCE AND WOULD BE BROUGHT HOME. SMALL ARMS MIGHT BE LEFT BEHIND. I SAID THIS WOULD BE OF CONCERN. HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF SMALL ARMS IN ANGOLA.

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## Message Attributes

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